

Message Text

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17-12

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 L-03 OMB-01 IGA-02 TRSE-00

H-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

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O 110915Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0703

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: AID ASSISTANCE TO POLICE AND PRISONS IN VIETNAM

REFS: A) STATE 002 B) STATE 000841
 C) STATE 251988 D) STATE 001373
 E) STATE 003464 F) STATE 004075

1. I HAVE PERSONALLY REVIEWED REFTELS AND HAVE HAD THOROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. ROBINSON AND THE APPRO-

PRIATE MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF. I AGREE, OF COURSE, THAT WE MUST IMMEDIATELY TAKE ALL ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE FAA AND THE FY 1974 APPROPRIATIONS ACT AFFECTING POLICE AND PRISON PROGRAMS IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND MR. ROBINSON HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY ME TO DO SO.

2. I ALSO AGREE THAT FURTHER ACTIONS, BEYOND THAT ACTUALLY REQUIRED BY THE PROVISIONS OF LAW, ARE DESIRABLE TO EFFECTUATE THE CLEAR DESIRES OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AS RECORDED IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT ACCOMPANYING THE FY 1974 APPROPRIATIONS BILL.

3. THIS ASSURANCE FROM ME AND THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN
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BY ME TO MR. ROBINSON ARE SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT THE

ADMINISTRATOR TO IMMEDIATELY MAKE THE DETERMINATION REQUIRED BY SECTION 801, AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF AID WILL AGREE. THEREFORE, I WOULD EXPECT THIS DETERMINATION TO BE MADE IMMEDIATELY AS THE ONLY RESPONSIBLE ACTION POSSIBLE TO PERMIT THE REST OF THE PROGRAM TO CONTINUE, SUCH AS THE PROGRAMS INVOLVING CHILD WELFARE AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS OF SUCH GREAT CONCERN TO THE AMERICAN VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND TO THE CONGRESS.

4. WE ARE CONTINUING WITH THE EXAMINATION OF THE SPECIFIC ACTIONS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPHS THREE AND FOUR OF REF (A). THOSE REQUIRED BY LAW WILL BE IMMEDIATELY CARRIED OUT. THE REMAINDER WILL BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED AND ALL RPT ALL WHICH, IN MY JUDGEMENT, CAN BE IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT CAUSING SERIOUS AND IRREPARABLE HARM TO OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE RMD WILL ALSO BE IMMEDIATELY CARRIED OUT. IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS THAT NO INDIVIDUAL HAS A GREATER STAKE THAN DO I IN CREATING THE BEST POSSIBLE CLIMATE FOR THE CONSIDERATION BY THE CONGRESS OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR \$250 MILLION

IN ECONOMIC AID FOR THE RVN IN FY 1974. THEREFORE, IT SHOULD BE COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE WILL COMPLY TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH THE ACTIONS REQUESTED IN THOSE PARAGRAPHS.

5. I DO NOT EXPECT THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLY COMPLETELY WITH THE TOTALITY OF THE REQUEST, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE WHERE IT IS DETERMINED THAT SIMPLE JUSTICE REQUIRES THAT WE COMPLETE FULFILLMENT OF A FORMAL OBLIGATION WHICH WE ARE NOT LEGALLY BARRED FROM FULFILLING. I AM ALSO WILLING TO ACCEPT THE COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR TESTIFYING BEFORE THE INOUE COMMITTEE ON WHY WE COULD NOT DO SO.

I SHALL WELCOME THAT OPPORTUNITY. IN RETROSPECT I SHOULD HAVE DONE SO THIS YEAR AND PERHAPS SOME OF THE MISINFORMATION ON WHICH PARTS OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT ARE BASED MIGHT HAVE BEEN CORRECTED.

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6. IN SUMMARY, SINCE WITH THIS MESSAGE THERE IS NO FURTHER REASON TO DELAY THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DETERMINATION, I SHALL EXPECT IT TO BE FORTHCOMING IMMEDIATELY.
MARTIN

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